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Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS

VOLUME 63 NUMBER 23

SOYBEANS (Page 563)

CONTENTS

Page

COTTON AND OTHER FIBER

Cotton-Price Quotations on World Markets 576
1951-52 Syrian Cotton Production Estimate Decreased 577

FATS AND OILS

World Soybean Production May Be Down Slightly 563
Nigeria's Peanut Crop Above Earlier Forecast 573
French Oilseed Prospects Continue Favorable 574
Egyptian Oilseed Production Down Slightly in 1951 575

FRUITS, VEGETABLES AND NUTS

Vegetable Prospects on West Coast of Mexico 567

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDS

Argentine Grain Crops Expected to be Small 568
Cuba Reports Good Corn Crop 569
Argentine October 1951 Grain Exports Continue Downward Trend 570

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

Argentine Meat Exports 572
El Salvador Removes Import Barriers on Certain Processed Milks and Milk Products 572

TOBACCO

Canada's Tobacco Production at Record Level; Exports Higher, Imports Lower 565
Belgium's Tobacco Production and Imports Higher; Exports Steady 565
India's Tobacco Production Revised Downward 566

FOR RELEASE

MONDAY

DECEMBER 3, 1951

IBRARY
SERIAL RECORD
DEC 10 1951
TMENT OF AGRICULTURE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

LATE NEWS

Exports of cotton from Brazil in the first 3 months of the 1951-52 season totaled 206,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross), a considerable increase above the 159,000 bales exported during the corresponding months of 1950-51. More than half, or 106,000 bales, of the exports thus far in the current season have been shipped to the United Kingdom, while sizable quantities were also exported to China, Western Germany, France and Finland.

The same is true for cotton exports from the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan. In August and September 1951, the Sudan exported 138,000 bales, almost 3 times the 47,000 bales exported in the same 2 months of the 1950-51 season. The United Kingdom has been the primary destination of Sudan's exports in the current season, with 112,000 bales shipped to that country in the first 2 months.

On the other hand, exports from Egypt during August through October 1951, totaling 110,000 bales, are far below the 379,000 bales exported in the first 3 months of 1950-51. The bulk of the exports in 1951-52 have been shipped to Rumania (25,000 bales) (under a barter agreement in exchange for wheat), France (21,000) India (20,000) and Western Germany (13,000).

- - - -

The 1951-52 cotton crop in Pakistan is currently estimated at 1,335,000 bales (of 500 pounds) or 8 percent larger than the 1950-51 crop of 1,237,000 bales. Average quality is slightly better than a year ago. Little change is expected in mill consumption estimated at 112,000 bales last year and now commercial consumption of about 33,000 bales. Exports in September and October 1951 totaled 79,000 bales, 48,000 of which were destined for China. Prices rose from 80 rupees per maund (29.33 cents a pound) plus export tax of 13.85 US. cents for Sind NT on October 1 to 131.5 rupees (48.21 cents) after the United States cotton crop report of November 8 then declined to 120 rupees (44.00 cents) by November 16.

FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

Published weekly to inform producers, processors, distributors and consumers of farm products of current developments abroad in the crop and livestock industries, foreign trends in prices and consumption of farm products, and world agricultural trade. Circulation of this periodical is free to those persons in the U. S. needing the information it contains in farming, business and professional operations. Issued by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

WORLD SOYBEAN PRODUCTION MAY BE DOWN SLIGHTLY

Soybean production in 1951 may be near 650 million bushels, according to information available to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. This is somewhat less than last year's record crop now estimated at 654 million bushels.

Soybeans are grown on some scale in a great many countries throughout the world and estimates for 40-odd countries are included in the above totals. At the same time there are relatively few countries in which soybeans are of real commercial importance. About 90 percent of the entire world crop is concentrated in the United States and China (including Manchuria). Thus there are no third areas of comparable importance. Korea, Japan, and Indonesia hold the next positions but together account for only 5 percent of production. Canada, the Soviet Union, and Brazil apparently are the only other countries which produce as much as 1 million bushels.

These peculiarities of the geographical distribution of soybeans make it extremely difficult to arrive at reliable production estimates for 1951. Official production records are generally lacking for countries where soybeans are of minor commercial importance and more than half the commercial area lies in that part of the world for which recent reports are incomplete or unavailable. Because of the greater reliability of estimates from the non-communist area, a subtotal has been included in the accompanying table for the non-communist countries. This shows an estimated 1951 production of 313 million bushels against 321 million last year and a prewar average of 87 million bushels.

The estimated decline of 8 million bushels from 1950 is largely explained by the shorter crop in the United States compared with last year. Likewise the sharp increase from prewar is largely explained by the rapidly expanding soybean industry in the United States. On a percentage basis, soybean production also has been expanding rapidly in Brazil and Canada. Both countries more than doubled production between 1948 and 1951.

With minor exceptions, only the United States and Manchuria are expected to be on an exporting basis for 1951 crop beans. Thus while Manchuria produces fewer soybeans than China proper, the crop prospects in Manchuria are of particular significance to world trade. Based on fragmentary information but substantiated from different sources, production there has recovered progressively since 1949 and the 1951 crop is probably well over 100 million bushels.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U. S. Foreign Service reports.

SOYBEANS: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries and the world, average 1935-39, annual 1948-51 1/

Continent and country	Acreage 2/					Yield per acre					Production				
	Average 1935-39	1948	1949	1950	1951 3/	Average 1935-39	1948	1949	1950	1951 3/	Average 1935-39	1948	1949	1950	1951 3/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
NORTH AMERICA															
Canada	4/ 10	94	104	142	176	20.7	19.4	25.1	23.4	22.5	4/ 207	1,824	2,605	3,323	3,962
United States 5/	3,042	10,430	10,156	13,291	13,102	18.5	21.4	22.7	21.6	21.2	56,167	223,006	230,897	287,010	277,590
EUROPE															
Bulgaria	34	-	-	-	-	12.1	-	-	-	-	416	-	-	-	-
Hungary	6/ 7	6	-	-	-	16.9	15.1	-	-	-	6/ 125	90	-	-	-
Italy	7/	5	3	2	1	12.1	21.9	18.3	17.5	24.9	4/ 1	107	52	29	31
Rumania	4/ 49	-	-	-	-	9.5	-	-	-	-	4/ 463	-	-	-	-
Yugoslavia	5	13	38	-	-	11.8	9.6	9.2	-	-	71	122	351	-	-
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia)	6/ 607	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6/ 5,805	-	-	-	-
ASIA															
Turkey	6/ 1	5	5	5	6	29.0	15.3	10.6	13.4	12.5	6/ 37	71	50	66	77
China proper (22 provinces)	12,411	11,309	11,762	-	-	16.7	18.6	15.2	-	-	207,666	210,820	179,200	-	-
Manchuria	8,992	-	5,500	-	-	16.8	-	12.0	-	-	151,294	-	66,000	-	-
Japan	797	584	646	750	-	15.6	13.8	12.8	15.8	-	12,338	8,085	8,240	11,864	11,000
Formosa	4/ 17	50	50	-	-	8.9	9.1	8.8	-	-	4/ 151	457	443	-	-
Korea 8/	4/ 1,921	487	658	-	-	10.0	10.1	10.0	-	-	17,654	4,924	6,654	-	-
Indonesia 9/	889	867	835	808	880	10.9	10.8	11.0	11.1	10.7	9,731	9,406	9,186	9,002	9,450
SOUTH AMERICA															
Brazil 10/	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	720	882	1,323	1,860
AFRICA															
Tanganyika	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	97	49	31	19
Union of South Africa	-	11/ 13	11/ 13	-	-	-	5.0	3.7	-	-	-	67	48	40	50
Total non-communist area	5,670	12,720	12,710	15,960	15,920	-	-	-	-	-	87,190	250,000	260,610	320,600	312,570
World total 12/	29,000	31,670	31,540	36,470	36,890	-	-	-	-	-	463,720	562,600	517,310	653,900	650,040

1/ Years shown refer to years of harvest. Southern Hemisphere crops which are harvested in the early part of the year are combined with those of the Northern Hemisphere harvested the latter part of the same year. 2/ Figures refer to harvested areas as far as possible. 3/ Preliminary. 4/ Average of less than 5 years. 5/ Acreage harvested for beans. 6/ One year only. 7/ Less than 500 acres. 8/ Beginning with 1948 figures represent South Korea only. 9/ Java and Madura only. 10/ Rio Grande do Sul and Sao Paulo. 11/ Planted acreage. 12/ Includes estimates for the above countries for which data are not available and for minor producing countries.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research, or other information. Prewar estimates for countries having changed boundaries have been adjusted to conform to present boundaries, except as noted.

COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

TOBACCO

CANADA'S TOBACCO PRODUCTION AT RECORD LEVEL; EXPORTS HIGHER, IMPORTS LOWER

Canada's 1951 tobacco crop is forecast at 26 percent above 1950, according to Francis A. Flood, Agricultural Attache, Ottawa. Exports of leaf tobacco during January-June 1951 were 24 percent above the same 1950 period. Imports of leaf tobacco during the first 6 months of 1951 were 8 percent below the comparable 1950 period.

The country's 1951 tobacco production is tentatively estimated at 151.2 million pounds from 119,500 acres, the largest crop on record. This compares with 120.3 million pounds from 101,800 acres in 1950 and 139.8 million pounds from 109,100 acres in 1949. Yield per acre for the 1951 crop is expected to be about 1,265 pounds as compared with 1,182 pounds in 1950 and 1,282 pounds per acre in 1949.

Exports of leaf tobacco during the first 6 months of 1951 totaled 20.2 million pounds compared with 16.3 million pounds during the same 1950 period and 11.4 million pounds during the first 6 months of 1949. The United Kingdom, the most important 1951 export outlet, took 16.3 million pounds, or 80 percent of all leaf exports; the British West Indies, the second most important outlet, took 1.2 million pounds; Belgium ranked third, with 305,000 pounds. The remaining 2.4 million pounds were taken by "other" foreign countries.

Imports of leaf during January-June 1951 totaled 601,158 pounds. This corresponds to 654,262 pounds during the same 1950 period and 814,824 pounds during the first 6 months of 1949. The United States, the most important 1951 leaf source, supplied 239,061 pounds; Cuba, the second most important source, supplied 202,793 pounds; Turkey ranked third, with 41,350 pounds; and Southern Rhodesia, fourth, with 36,567 pounds.

BELGIUM'S TOBACCO PRODUCTION AND IMPORTS HIGHER; EXPORTS STEADY

Belgium's 1951 tobacco harvest is estimated at 52 percent above 1950, according to R. M. Anderson, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Brussels. Imports of leaf during January-June 1951 were 6 percent above the same 1950 period. Exports of leaf during the first 6 months of 1951 were about the same as in January-June 1950.

The country's 1951 tobacco crop is estimated at 15.4 million pounds from 5,400 acres. This compares with 10.1 million pounds from 4,450 acres in 1950 and 7.0 million pounds from 3,350 acres in 1949. Yield per acre during 1951 is now estimated at 2,855 pounds compared with 2,275 pounds in 1950 and 2,078 pounds in 1949.

Imports of leaf during January-June 1951 totaled 24.3 million pounds compared with 22.8 million pounds in the corresponding 1950 period. The United States, the most important source of leaf during the 1951 period, supplied 13.8 million pounds; Turkey, the second most important source, supplied 2.3 million pounds; the Dominican Republic ranked third, with 1.8 million; the Netherlands, fourth, with 434,306 pounds; and Indonesia, fifth, with 330,682 pounds. Other countries supplying Belgium with leaf during the first half of 1951 included India, Canada, and "other" foreign countries. In addition to leaf, Belgium also imported 194,005 pounds of cigarettes, of which the United States supplied about 66 percent, and 110,230 pounds of cigars and cigarillos, all of which were supplied by the Netherlands.

Exports of leaf during January-June 1951, which are relatively unimportant, totaled 152,117 pounds, which is comparable to exports during the same 1950 period. The Netherlands was the sole leaf export outlet during 1951. In addition to leaf, Belgium exported 1,283,077 pounds of cigarettes and 374,191 pounds of scrap tobacco. The Netherlands took 40 percent and Western Germany, 30 percent of the 1951 cigarette exports. The Netherlands took all the scrap tobacco.

INDIA'S TOBACCO PRODUCTION REVISED DOWNWARD

India's 1950-51 tobacco production is now estimated at 4 percent below earlier estimates, according to Clifford C. Taylor, Consular, American Embassy, New Delhi.

The country's 1950-51 tobacco production is now placed at 562.2 million pounds from 839,000 acres, as compared with earlier estimates of 586.9 million pounds from 836,000 acres. The 1949-50 leaf production is estimated at 591.4 million pounds from 860,000 acres. Yield per acre for the 1950-51 crop is now estimated at 670 pounds compared with 688 pounds in 1949-50.

The decrease in acreage harvested and in production during 1950-51 is reported to have occurred mainly in the States of Bihar and Madras as a result of a severe drought and also in the State of Uttar Pradish as a result ot the heavy tax on tobacco cultivation. However, acreage and production are reportedly higher in the State of Bombay during 1950-51.

FRUITS, VEGETABLES AND NUTS

VEGETABLE PROSPECTS ON WEST COAST OF MEXICO

Early prospects for the 1951-52 winter vegetable season on the West Coast of Mexico place the acreage of tomatoes, peppers and peas at 57,450 acres, 10 percent below the 1950-51 acreage of 64,000; production of the same 3 vegetables is estimated at 7,875 carlots or 9 percent above the previous year's output of 7,237.

The Culiacan district, which produced about 50 percent of total West Coast vegetables, reports that plantings made prior to September 15 faired poorly, due to unusually warm weather, but plantings made after that date are in good conditions and due to irrigation have not suffered from drought. The remaining districts of Guaymas, Huatabampo, Los Mochis and Bamoa-Guasave have had rain, and prospects for vegetables are excellent.

Acreage planted to tomatoes is estimated at about 46,000 acres, 17 percent below the 1950-51 acreage of 56,000. Output is estimated at 6,400 carlots as compared with 6,237 in 1950-51. Plantings in the Huatabampo district are around 9,000 acres, as compared with 6,200 acres last season. Pickings of tomatoes in this area are scheduled to start about November 24, and the first carload will reach Nogales about November 27.

The Los Mochis district will probably plant around 7,400 acres, a little more than last season. Shipping of tomatoes from this area will start about the first week of December. Planting in the Culiacan district will be around 20,000 acres as compared with 37,000 acres last season. Shipments will start from this area around December 1.

Other areas on the West Coast will plant around 10,000 acres as compared with 6,000 last season. Plants are in excellent condition and shipments will begin during the first and second weeks of December.

Acreage of peppers for the 1951-52 season is estimated at about 8,000 acres, 3,000 more than were planted during 1950-51. Plantings have increased sharply in the Huatabampo and Culiacan districts, the latter because of restrictions of tomato plantings. The first carload of peppers will arrive in Nogales November 20.

Pea plantings for the 1951-52 season will be around 3,300 acres, about the same as last season. Condition of the crop is very good and the first shipment will reach Nogales about December 14.

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDS

ARGENTINE GRAIN CROPS EXPECTED TO BE SMALL

Prospects are unfavorable for the grain harvest now getting underway in Argentina, according to a report from C.A. Boonstra, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Buenos Aires. Latest prospects indicate an outturn of about 125 million bushels. This would be one of the smallest harvests of record and, while covering domestic requirements, would leave little surplus available for export from this normally important exporting country. Reduced acreage and severe drought damage account for the unfavorable outlook.

The drought damage was most severe in the northern part of the wheat zone with conditions reported worst in the Provinces of Cordoba and Santa Fe. In Cordoba the drought was broken in early November. In the previous 10 months only a few inches of rain had fallen, and grain seeding was greatly curtailed. As a result of the long continued drought and a feed shortage, a considerable acreage in Cordoba has been considered worth more for pasturage than for harvest, especially where low yields were in prospect. This has further reduced the acreage for harvest of all small grains. High winds added to the damage, causing some soil erosion and dust storms.

In parts of Santa Fe conditions were similar to those in Cordoba. In most of the drought areas of both Provinces, however, one to two inches of rainfall had been reported by early November. Growers who lost early grain acreage may plant late corn, millet, or sorghum as catch crops. In Buenos Aires Province, rainfall was reported only fair through October, but additional rains since that time have relieved the shortage.

Though official estimates are not available, wheat seedings for the country are believed to be down about 30 percent from the below-average area seeded last year. Reductions were widespread throughout the wheat area, but with most of the reduction concentrated in the three important producing Provinces mentioned above. In addition to unfavorable weather, the reduced acreage is attributed to shortages of labor and machinery and to dissatisfaction with price policies. The dissatisfaction with prices paid producers is said to have caused some shift from grain to livestock production.

The unfavorable growing conditions are expected to result in a higher than average abandonment of wheat acreage. Present prospects point to abandonment of about 25 percent of the acreage sown. The percentage not harvested is expected to be especially high in Cordoba, with reports indicating that about half the wheat has already been grazed or abandoned. The remaining acreage will give a very low yield, according to reports.

Parts of Santa Fe are reported almost as bad as Cordoba, but in other areas of the Province, yields are expected to be fair to good. Some good yielding fields, however, are being grazed to supply emergency feed for cattle from drought zones. For the Province of Buenos Aires, as a whole, wheat is reported in reasonably good condition, but with no prospects of yields high enough to offset drought losses in other parts of the wheat belt.

The outlook for the crop is considered so serious that there is some talk of compulsory harvest measures. As an incentive to harvest low-yielding fields, normally abandoned, the Government in November announced premiums on the official prices to be paid, in drought areas. The premiums range from 5 pesos per 100 kilos (27 cents per bushel) in the worst drought areas to 3 pesos (16 cents per bushel) in defined areas where the drought was less severe. The premiums will be added to the official price of $1.85 per bushel announced earlier in the season for the current crop. In all areas of the country the customary discounts for wheat testing below the established basic weight will be reduced by 50 percent this season.

Carryover stocks of wheat from previous crops are again low, which will accentuate the general shortage this season. If the outturn is no larger than now expected, supplies for export would be insignificant.

Production of other small grains is also expected to be small. The acreage sown to these grains was below average but the principal factor in the reduced production outlook is heavy and prolonged grazing during the winter-spring drought.

Corn-acreage is placed at about 6.5 million acres, in trade circles. This would be a slight increase over the area planted last season, but is still sharply below average. The 1935-39 average was 16 million acres and the 1940-44 average, 11.7 million acres planted. The Government's campaign to increase corn acreage fell far short of its goal, with dry weather in the principal corn area retarding preparation of the land and planting. Germination has been only fair, according to reports, and considerable losses resulted from drought and later from frost. Hybrid corn is having its first extensive test in Argentina this season. Seed for about 25,000 acres was sold by local seed growers.

Supplies of corn are becoming short throughout the country following the small crops of the past 3 seasons, and especially the crop failure of 1949-50. Exports to date have amounted to only about 5 million bushels, with a total of about 20 million expected in the current season, compared with exports of more than 350 million bushels in some peak years. The corn harvest normally becomes general in late March or early April.

CUBA REPORTS GOOD CORN CROP

Cuba's summer corn crop in 1951 was reported at 5.9 million bushels, falling between the record harvest of 6.4 million in 1948 and the small harvest of 4.6 million bushels in 1950. The summer crop ordinarily accounts for 70-75 percent of the total outturn. Yields are estimated higher than those for the record production of 1948 and sharply above the small yields a year ago. Acreage was slightly larger than the 1950 acreage but about 10 percent less than the large 1948 acreage.

The small increase over last year's acreage is attributed to relatively high prices following the short crop last summer.

More favorable weather conditions than in the past 2 seasons made the high yields possible. Good rainfall well distributed throughout the growing season kept acreage abandonment to a minimum. Favorable weather continuing throughout the harvest season also contributed to the good outturn.

Recent distribution of several thousand quintals of hybrid corn seed by the Ministry of Agriculture is expected to do much toward improving both the quality and yield of the coming harvest. This is a hybrid strain developed in Cuba and especially suited to the tropical conditions there.

The outlook for future corn production is reported good if the Agricultural Development Bank continues its farm support program. The farm price of corn is now supported by loans from the bank.

ARGENTINE OCTOBER 1951 GRAIN EXPORTS CONTINUE DOWNWARD TREND

Argentina's grain exports during October 1951, the 11th month of that country's 1950-51 grain marketing season, amounted to only 207,000 long tons. This was the lowest total for any month of the season except for December 1950 when new crop supplies were just becoming available. Argentina's grain marketing season runs from December through November for wheat, rye, oats and barley, and from April through March for corn. Approximately 60 percent of the exports during the month under review consisted of wheat and 30 percent of corn. Brazil was the most important destination for the wheat and France for the corn.

During the four months July-October 1951, which corresponds to the first third of the 1951-52 grain marketing season in the United States, grain exports from Argentina amounted to 919,000 long tons compared with 1,148,000 tons during the same months last year. This represented an overall reduction of almost 20 percent. Wheat exports during this four months period show a reduction of 24 percent, rye of 82 percent, and oats of 71 percent. On the other hand, corn and barley exports show increases from the low levels of the same four months a year earlier.

The bulk of the July-October 1951 wheat exports went to Brazil, India, Italy and Peru, those four countries taking 81 percent of the total. Virtually all of the rye, corn, oats and barley exports during that period went to European countries.

Argentine Grain Exports During October 1951 and July-October 1951 with Comparisons

Destination	Wheat	Rye	Corn	Oats	Barley	All Grains
	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons
October 1951						
Brazil	79,093	-	-	-	-	79,093
Chile	5,180	-	-	-	-	5,180
Paraguay	4,206	-	-	-	-	4,206
Peru	9,350	-	-	-	-	9,350
Belgium	931	-	1,305	-	4,000	6,236
France	4,317	-	43,661	-	5,419	53,397
Netherlands	6,653	-	-	3,600	3,984	14,237
Switzerland	-	-	16,495	5,216	-	21,711
French Africa	8,840	-	-	-	-	8,840
India	5,138	-	-	-	-	5,138
Total	123,708	-	61,461	8,816	13,403	207,388
October 1950	114,875	8,317	16,834	24,785	1,283	166,094
July-October 1951						
Brazil	275,008	-	-	979	-	275,987
Chile	13,912	-	-	-	-	13,912
Paraguay	20,149	-	-	-	-	20,149
Peru	39,817	-	-	-	-	39,817
Belgium	4,374	3,924	9,261	4,745	20,659	42,963
France	20,590	-	124,384	-	5,420	150,394
Germany	17,750	98	5,531	11,673	33,136	68,188
Italy	47,595	-	-	-	-	47,595
Netherlands	6,653	-	6,596	4,092	10,955	28,296
Sweden	-	-	82	8,036	-	8,118
Switzerland	-	-	24,932	8,169	4,527	37,628
United Kingdom	1,856	-	1,506	8,036	-	11,398
Egypt	5,240	-	-	-	-	5,240
French Africa	27,491	-	984	-	-	28,475
India	141,184	-	-	-	-	141,184
Total	621,619	4,022	173,276	45,730	74,697	919,344
July-October 1950	821,102	34,039	124,664	157,465	10,933	1,148,203

Compiled from records of El Cerealista, Buenos Aires.

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

ARGENTINE BEEF EXPORTS

According to Charles C. Wilson, Assistant Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Buenos Aires, exports of beef from Argentina dropped sharply during the third quarter of this year. Slaughter during part of August was less than needed for domestic consumption, and there were some withdrawals from refrigerated stocks which were limited. Shipments during August and September were very small. Movement was primarily to Israel and Germany. By the last of October several shipments of about 2,000 metric tons (4.4 million pounds) were made, most of which were to Britain. Of the refrigerated beef exports during January-September totaling 90,433 metric tons (199,369,000 pounds), a little less than one half has gone to the United Kingdom; about 75 percent of the 19,004 tons (41,896,000 pounds) of offal exported in this period has been to Britain. Shipments of beef and offal to the United Kingdom during August totaled 56,358 metric tons (124,247,000 pounds). Since there is some doubt that this part of the Anglo-Argentine contract can be filled, Argentina plans to send more than the expected quantities of mutton and lamb and 30,000 metric tons (66 million pounds) of canned beef.

Canned corned beef and specialities exported during the third quarter totaled 32,430 metric tons (71,495,000 pounds) which is 8,259 tons (18,208,000 pounds) less than during the previous three months. The January-September total is 102,188 metric tons, (225,284,000 pounds), most of which has gone to the United States and the United Kingdom. Shipments to the United Kingdom during April-September totaled 31,397 metric tons (69,218,000 pounds), which is approximately the quantity stipulated in the Anglo-Argentine contract. Continued sizeable shipments of corned beef will help offset the shortage that may occur in refrigerated beef exports. Present corned beef production is somewhat hindered by the regulation directing slaughter of the best grade canner-type cows into domestic consumption.

Exports of other canned beef specialities during July-September 1951 were slightly above the previous three months. Practically all these shipments were to the United States.

EL SALVADOR REMOVES IMPORT BARRIERS ON CERTAIN PROCESSED MILKS AND MILK PRODUCTS [1]

Effective November 1, the following changes in the import tariff were established by the Salvadoran Legislative Assembly by Decree No. 452, issued October 19, 1951. This Decree also empowers the Executive to control the prices of the commodities affected as well and the products made therefrom.

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[1] A more extensive statement will soon be obtainable as a Foreign Agricultural Circular from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

Tariff item 211-3-02-003: Whole or skim milk, milk formulae (leche maternizada), buttermilk (babeurre), and cream, dehydrated or powdered and without mixture of other substances, heretofore subject to a duty of US $30.00 per 100 kilograms (13.6 cents per pound) of gross weight, will henceforth enter free of duty and other import charges, including consular fees which amount to 6 percent of c.i.f. value.

Tariff item 211-3-02-004: Whole or skim milk, with or without added lactic acid, and cream dehydrated or powdered, sweetened, flavored or mixed with unspecified substances, heretofore subject to a duty of US$30.00 per 100 kilograms (13.6 cents per pound) of gross weight, will henceforth enter free of duty and the other import charges.

Tariff item 211-3-02-005: Evaporated or condensed milk and cream, heretofore subject to a duty of US$6.00 per 100 kilograms (2.7 cents per pound) of gross weight, will henceforth enter free of duty and other aforementioned charges.

FATS AND OILS

NIGERIA'S PEANUT CROP ABOVE EARLIER FORECAST

Revised estimates for the 1951-52 export crop of peanuts in Nigeria now range from about 350,000 to 360,000 short tons of shelled peanuts, according to R.W. Ross, American Consulate General, Lagos. The sizable increase from last season's crop of 160,000 tons is due to timely rains, high per acre yield, and an increase in the area planted.

The 1951-52 peanut buying season opened as scheduled on November 2 in the Kano and Bornu regions but was delayed in the Zaria and Sokoto Provinces because of the bad roads resulting from the excessive rains. The Rivers Area buying season opened on November 16. The average buying price for this season is £35-7 per long ton ($88.38 per short ton). At no buying station was the price lower than £29 ($72.50) or higher than £36 ($90). A police guard has been placed upon the routes into the nearby French territory, thereby preventing the farmers from carrying peanuts across the border to take advantage of the higher prices being offered there.

Sesame seed production during the 1951-52 season is expected to surpass the previous year's output of 10,250 tons. The buying season opened on June 1 and purchases through the first week of November amounted to 8,625 tons. The minimum price for this season was set at £32 per long ton ($80 per short ton).

A price of £20 per long ton ($1.50 per bushel) has been set for the current soybean crop. Crop prospects are rated as good. During the 1950-51 season 131,400 bushels were purchased for export.

During the 1950-51 season, from a production of 33,000 tons of cottonseed, 12,800 tons were consumed in Nigeria as seed for planting and as stock feed, and 20,200 tons were exported. Growing conditions have been favorable and a general estimate of the current crop has been placed at 39,200 tons of cottonseed, with a potential export tonnage of 22,400 tons.

Production of palm kernels for the export market is estimated at about 370,000 tons in 1951 compared with 466,000 tons last year. Palm oil purchases to October 4, 1951, from the 1951 crop, totaled 154,500 tons against 193,800 tons in the year 1950.

FRENCH OILSEED PROSPECTS CONTINUE FAVORABLE

Production of oilseeds in France in 1951 is expected to exceed 1950 output by approximately 11 percent, reports L. Stephenson and Q. R. Bates of the American Embassy, Paris. Total area planted to oilseeds and estimated production as of August 1, compared with final estimates for 1950, were as follows:

Oilseed	Area (Acres)	Production (Short tons)
Rapeseed		
1951	299,000	151,675
1950	283,760	139,862
Poppyseed		
1951	4,200	1,325
1950	5,580	1,842
Sunflower seed		
1951	21,250	8,265
1950	19,864	8,602
Others		
1951	74,100	32,185
1950	65,516	24,073
Total		
1951	398,550	193,450
1950	374,720	174,379

No official information is available regarding 1951 flaxseed production beyond the fact that acreage has increased, and was estimated on June 1 at 115,800 acres against 97,600 in 1950. Since production of fiber is believed to have increased by about 18 percent, it may be assumed that output of flaxseed has increased in approximately the same proportion. On this basis, the 1951 crop may total 650,000 bushels against 553,000 in 1950.

Prices to producers of domestic oilseeds were increased on October 18 when the price paid for the basic oilseed--rapeseed--increased from 5,460 francs per quintal (equivalent to $141.50 per short ton) to 7,235 francs ($187.50). Prices to producers and refiners of oils, and wholesale and retail margins, were also increased but to a much lesser degree.

EGYPTIAN OILSEED PRODUCTION DOWN SLIGHTLY IN 1951

Egypt's production of principal vegetable oilseeds in 1951 is estimated at around 766,000 short tons, a slight decrease from the 774,600 tons produced in 1950, reports J. G. Panos, American Consulate General, Alexandria.

Production of commercial cottonseed in 1951 amounted to about 740,800 tons, or almost 97 percent of the total oilseed output. The 1950 cottonseed output is estimated at 748,800 tons.

Other oilseeds produced in Egypt during 1951 were peanuts-19,800 tons, flaxseed-102,360 bushels, and sesame seed-2,760 tons. Peanut output varied little from the previous year. The increase in flaxseed production, about 44 percent from 1950, was due mainly to a greater demand for flax fiber at the time of planting. The area planted to sesame has continued to decrease in favor of cotton, with the result that this year's sesame harvest was 28 percent less than in 1950.

Cottonseed oil production in 1951 dropped to an estimated 83,800 tons, as compared with almost 100,000 tons the previous year. Consumption of cottonseed oil in Egypt annually fluctuates between 105,000 and 120,000 tons. About two-thirds of this quantity is used as a cooking oil. Although some cottonseed oil is used each year in the manufacture of vegetable shortening, most of the remaining quantity is used by the local soap industry.

Egypt also consumes between 1,500 to 2,000 tons of linseed oil and from 4,500 to 5,500 tons of sesame oil each year. Most of the peanuts produced in the country are consumed locally either fresh or roasted. Only a small quantity of peanuts is crushed into oil.

Import data for vegetable oilseeds and oils during 1951 are not yet available. However, cottonseed imports from the Sudan are expected to amount to about 27,500 tons.

The Egyptian Government, in an effort to combat the high cost of living, exempted cottonseed, peanut, sesame, coconut, and linseed oils, certain industrial oils, and common soap from payment of import duties. In addition, the ad valorem duty collected on imports of these products was reduced from 7 to 1 percent. This action became effective March 1, 1951.

No cottonseed or flaxseed is exported from Egypt. Occasionally, sesame and peanuts are exported, although the respective quantities rarely exceed 350 and 2,200 tons. Limited quantities of cottonseed oil are exported from Egypt each year in exchange for industrial oils, principally for soap manufacture.

COTTON AND OTHER FIBER

COTTON-PRICE QUOTATIONS ON WORLD MARKETS

The following table shows certain cotton-price quotations on world markets converted at current rates of exchange.

COTTON: Spot prices in certain foreign markets, U.S. gulf-port average, and taxes incident to exports

Market location, kind, and quality	Date 1951	Unit of weight	Unit of currency	Price in foreign currency	Equiv. US¢ a lb.	
					Spot quotation	Export & intermediate taxes
Alexandria		Kantar				
Ashmouni, FG..........	11-29	99.05 lbs.	Tallari	114.75	66.51	11.59
Ashmouni, Good.........	"	"	"	105.25	61.01	11.59
Ashmouni, FGF..........	"	"	"	93.75	54.34	11.59
Karnak, FG............	"	"	"	197.50	114.48	11.59
Karnak, Good..........	"	"	"	166.75	96.66	11.59
Karnak, FGF...........	"	"	"	138.50	80.28	11.59
Bombay		Candy				
Jarila, Fine..........	"	784 lbs.	Rupee	1/ 820.00	21.83	21.30
Broach Vijay, Fine....	"	"	"	1/ 925.00	24.62	21.30
Karachi		Maund				
4F Punjab, SG, Fine....	11-28	82.28 lbs.	"	124.00	45.46	13.85
289F Sind, SG, Fine....	"	"	"	125.00	45.83	13.85
289F Punjab, SG, Fine.	"	"	"	129.00	47.30	13.85
Buenos Aires		Metric ton				
Type B................	11-29	2204.6 lbs.	Peso	8300.00	75.30	7.03
Lima		Sp. quintal				
Tanguis, Type 3-1/2....	11-27	101.4 lbs.	Sol	580.00	37.31	15.23
Tanguis, Type 5........	"	"	"	2/ 550.00	35.38	13.27
Pima, Type 1..........	"	"	"	(not quoted)		
Recife		Arroba				
Mata, Type 4..........	11-29	33.07 lbs.	Cruzeiro	400.00	65.81	2.4% ad valorem
Sertao, Type 5........	"	"	"	(not quoted)		
Sertao, Type 4........	"	"	"	480.00	78.97	" "
Sao Paulo						
Sao Paulo, Type 5.....	"	"	"	370.00	60.87	3.0% ad valorem
Torreon		Sp. quintal				
Middling, 15/16"......	"	101.4 lbs.	Peso	335.00	38.22	6.18
Houston-Galveston-New Orleans av.Mid. 15/16"	"	Pound	Cent	XXXXX	42.45	-----

Quotations of foreign markets and taxes reported by cable from U.S. Foreign Service posts abroad. U.S. quotations from designated spot markets.

1/ Ceiling price.
2/ Nominal.

1951-52 SYRIAN COTTON PRODUCTION ESTIMATE DECREASED

Recent estimates of the 1951-52 production of cotton in Syria place the crop at little more than 175,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross), considerably below earlier estimates of a crop of 300,000 bales or more, according to Paul Geren, Second Secretary, American Legation, Demascus.

In 1950-51 production totaled 140,000 bales, more than double the 61,000 bales produced in the preceding season. Production in 1951-52 was expected again to be more than double the previous year's crop. The area planted to cotton increased from slightly less than 200,000 acres in 1950-51 to between 450,000 and 550,000 acres in the current season. However, several factors prevailing during the growing season resulted in poor yields from the large acreage. The primary factor responsible for the low yields was a serious insect infestation which was not effectively controlled by the growers. An inadequate supply of labor in several of the cotton-growing regions further hampered control measures. In addition, many of the growers lacked experience in cotton cultivation in general and particularly in cotton insect control. The insufficient supply of good quality seed at planting time combined with restricted quantities of water for irrigation in some districts were other factors limiting the yields.

During the first half of 1951 prices of domestic cotton in Syria were above the equivalent of 60 U.S. cents a pound, reaching as high as 78 cents at the beginning of March. This high level of prices was the primary cause of the large acreage planted to cotton in the spring. By late August cotton prices had declined to 36 cents a pound with much disappointment to producers. Since that time prices have once more turned upward and regained a substantial part of the earlier loss. Recent advices indicate prices in the range of 65 cents a pound for good quality Syrian cotton landed at European ports.

Consumption of cotton in Syria in 1950-51 is estimated at about 32,000 bales, a sizable increase over the 23,000 bales consumed in the 1949-50 season. Cotton spindles installed in Syrian textile mills have increased steadily from 13,000 in 1947 to 42,000 in 1950 with an additional 12,500 to be put in place in 1951.

Cotton exports in 1950-51 totaled 111,000 bales, more than three times the 33,000 bales exported in the previous season. The most important destinations for Syrian cotton in 1950-51 were in Europe, with France, the United Kingdom, and Italy receiving the bulk. Although large quantities were transported to the Lebanon Free Zone for transshipment to other countries, a breakdown of the destinations is not available.